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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/737,068	12/15/2003	Masahiro Hirano	96790P446	5247
8791	7590	11/09/2004	EXAMINER	
BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN 12400 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD SEVENTH FLOOR LOS ANGELES, CA 90025-1030			NOLAN JR, CHARLES H	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2854	

DATE MAILED: 11/09/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/737,068

Applicant(s)

HIRANO ET AL.

Examiner

Charles H Nolan, Jr.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 December 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12-15-03; 7-13-04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-2,6,12-13,17 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by EP 0 983 852 A1, hereafter '852.

With respect to Claim 1, '852 teaches the first supplying step in figure 8, the intermittently stopping and controlling steps in column 2, lines 9-10, 25-28 and the second supplying step in figure 8 and column @ paragraphs [0059] and [0063]. With respect to Claim 2 and 13, '852 teaches the control step/means and ink fountain key driving means in columns 4-5, full paragraph [0020]. With respect to Claim 6, '852 teaches the control step in column 4, lines 57-58 With respect to Claim 12, '852 teaches the plurality of ink fountain keys 4, the ink fountain roller 3, the gap and the ink doctor roller 5 in figure 8 and column 1 @ paragraphs [0003]- [0004], the swing control means in column 2 @paragraph [0007], the ink supply amount control means in column 2 @ paragraph [0008]. With respect to Claim 17, '852 teaches the correction and ink fountain roller driving means in column 8 @ paragraph [0044]. With respect to Claim 20, '852 teaches the count means and swing control means in column 6, lines 1-33.

3. Claims 1-8,10-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by EP 1 083 047 A1, hereafter '047.

With respect to Claim 1, '047 teaches the first supplying and intermittently stopping steps in figure 17, the controlling and second supplying steps in figure 3. With respect to Claim 2, '047 teaches the control step in column 1 @ paragraph [0004]. With respect to Claims 3,14, '047 teaches the correction for a value larger than a predetermined (reference) in figure 5B. With respect to Claims 4,15, '047 teaches the correction step in figure 5A. With respect to Claims 5,8,16,18-19, '047 teaches the setting step in columns 12 –13 @ paragraphs [0057]-[0058]. With respect to Claims 6-7, '047 teaches the control steps in figure 5A. With respect to Claims 10,21, '047 teaches the control step on the front page diagram @ S201. With respect to Claims 11,22, '047 teaches the executing and temporarily stopping step/means in figure 17 in figures 5A-5C.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claim 9 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

5. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The Examiner reserves comment until the entire instant application is in condition for allowance.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charles H Nolan, Jr. whose telephone number is 571-272-2171. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday 8:00 AM to 6:30 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Hirshfeld can be reached on 571-272-2168. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Charles H Nolan, Jr.
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2854

CHN